



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

PIRES *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/986,750

Filed: November 9, 2001

For: **Method for Removing a Universal  
Linker From an Oligonucleotide**

Confirmation No.: 5957 #

Art Unit: 1632

Examiner: *To be assigned*

Atty. Docket: 0942.5080001/RWE/FRC

**Preliminary Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In advance of prosecution, Applicants submit the following amendment and remarks.

This Amendment is provided in the following format:

- (A) A clean version of each replacement paragraph/section/claim along with clear instructions for entry;
- (B) Starting on a separate page, appropriate remarks and arguments. 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 and MPEP 714; and
- (C) Starting on a separate page, a marked-up version entitled: "Version with markings to show changes made."